

Filed for intro on 01/31/2001

HOUSE RESOLUTION 10
By Kent

A RESOLUTION to honor Ms. Jean M. Dixon of the University of Memphis and to congratulate her for 26 years of outstanding service to the University and to the state of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, this legislative body is pleased to specially recognize those citizens of our state who in their years of work have rendered outstanding service to the institutions where they are employed as well as to the people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Jean M. Dixon, Supervisor and Administrative Secretary to the Chairman, Instruction and Curriculum Leadership, Tennessee's Early Intervention System, College of Education, University of Memphis, is one such valued professional employee who, for 26 years, has rendered outstanding service to the University and to the people of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Jean attended Central High School in Bolivar, Tennessee, where she was Salutatorian, and studied Business and Home Economics at Blue Mountain College in Blue Mountain, Tennessee; she was married to the late Roy E. Dixon and is the proud mother of daughter Dee Buhr; and

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WHEREAS, Ms. Dixon first came to then Memphis State University in December of 1969; she served as Administrative Secretary and Office Manager at the Computer Center and then at the Office of the Director of Memphis State University Tiger Clubs and Assistant Athletic Director until September of 1986; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Jean Dixon left MSU to follow the Athletic Director for whom she had worked to Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, where she stayed until 1990; in May of 1990 she returned to Memphis State University, first in the Visitor Information Center and the Civil Engineering Department, and then in her present position; and

WHEREAS, upon her return in 1990, President Thomas G. Carpenter asked Ms. Dixon to handle complementary football and basketball tickets for his office; she came to love the work, and has met many elected officials, visiting university officials, and media representatives in that role; and

WHEREAS, Jean Dixon has been active in many professional organizations, including University Career Women, the National Association for Female Executives and the Professional Secretaries Organization; she has been an enthusiastic member of the MSU Tiger's Club and the VCU Ram's Club as well as a faithful and active member of Bellevue Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dixon has enjoyed the respect and appreciation of those who have worked with her over the years; the Memphis TIPS office was particularly grateful for her two years of part-time help which she gave that office while working at the Tennessee's Early Intervention System office, a combined activity which required her to fully understand the workings of both offices and to work with two separate groups of people; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Jean Dixon was selected by Senior Services to receive the 50+ Circle of Excellence Award, the first and only University of Memphis employee to receive it; in the nomination she was cited for her energy and charisma; her flexibility in adjusting to new technologies; her compassion in dealing with disasters large and small befalling both professors and students; her response to students' needs which helped them on their way; her dedication

to the tasks at hand, regardless of hours of the day or days of the week required; her incredible selflessness and refusal to submit to illness; and, above all, her unfailing ability to "survive" physical discomfort, administrative reorganizations, or radical changes in policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, a person who manifests such incredible positive traits and who continues to perform her duties in such a remarkable manner while making an unfailing favorable impression upon all whom she meets is certainly worthy of our praise and appreciation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That the members of this legislative body congratulate Ms. Jean M. Dixon for her 26 years of faithful and outstanding service to the University of Memphis, its faculty, staff and student body, and to the people of Tennessee, and that we express our profound appreciation for all that she does and continues to do.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.